

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, please amend lines 1-12 to read as follows:

The invention relates to a blister package arrangement ~~per~~
~~the overall concept of Patent Claim 1~~ which comprises a
blister package and a conductor carrier strip attached
thereto, wherein openings of the carrier strip are oriented
toward pockets of the blister package. When a tablet is to
be removed from a pocket the sealing film of the blister
package closing the pocket is separated, allowing the tablet
to be removed.

Blister packages of ~~the~~ this type containing pharmaceutical
tablets ~~in~~ provided in pockets are well known. For this,
electrical conductors usually extend across the surface of a
sealing film sealing the pockets over the area of the
pockets so that they are broken when a tablet is removed
from the pocket of the blister package. A blister package
arrangement of this type includes a receiver device for the

blister package having an electronic unit that senses the break in the circuit and stores this detection of the removal of the medication. Such a blister package arrangement is known, for example, from EP 0 180 073 A1.

On page 1, after line 12, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, delete lines 19-20 and add the following paragraph as follows:

~~This object is achieved by blister package arrangement with the properties of Patent Claim 1.~~

This object, as well as further objects which will become apparent from the discussion that follows, are achieved, in accordance with the present invention, by stamping cutting lines in the conductor carrier strip which surround the pockets in a ring shape. These stamped lines are interrupted by at least two spars, by means of which a cover over the pocket is connected with the carrier strip. The spars are distributed around the periphery of the stamped lines in such a way that one spar is severed when the

associated tablet is pressed out from the pocket. The conductor carrier strip comprises, on the part thereof opposite to the blister package, individual conductors, each of which extends from an individual connecting contact pad over at least one spar and is severed upon removal of the associated tablet.

On page 2, please delete lines 21-22 and insert the following paragraph and heading:

~~Further advantageous embodiments of the invention are derived from the Dependent Claims. The illustrations show:~~

For a full understanding of the present invention, reference should now be made to the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 3, please amend lines 1-18 to read as follows:

Figure 1 is a schematic view of a known blister package.

Figure 1a shows a cross-section through a conductor carrier strip that, with the help of an adhesive layer, is to be adhered to the blister package of the type shown in Figure 1 to produce the blister package7.

Figure 2 is a view of the blister package of Figure 1 from the direction of the deep-drawing film7.

Figure 3 is a view of the side of the conductor carrier strip facing the blister package arrangement of Figures 1 and 27.

Figure 4 is a view of the conductor carrier strip as in Figure 3, whereby a blister package as in Figure 2 is connected with the conductor carrier strip7.

Figure 5 is a view of the side of the conductor carrier strip facing away from the blister package7.

Figure 6 shows a conductor carrier strip as in Figure 5 with a protective layer covering the conductors7.

Figure 7 shows a blister package arrangement inserted into a receiver device surrounding the electronic components7.

On page 4, please amend lines 1-19 to read as follows:

Figure 8 is a view of the side of the conductor carrier strip facing away from the blister package, whereby three different types of spar configurations and conductor routings are shown for the sake of explanation₇.

Figure 9 is an embodiment in which the stamped line separating the covering includes spars on the two opposing sides extending longitudinally along the covering, whereby the individual conductor extends over both spar pieces₇.

Figure 10 is an embodiment in which the spar is positioned on one end of the covering as seen along the longitudinal direction of the covering and an additional spar is positioned approximately in the center of an area extending longitudinally along the stamped line, whereby the individual conductor extends over both spars₇.

Figure 11 shows another embodiment in which the spars are positioned similarly to those in Figure 10, but the individual conductor extends as a loop over the one or the other spar₇.

Figures 12 ~ 16 show a conductor carrier strip configured as a book-type carrier device, ~~and~~ and.

On page 4, please amend lines 1-19 to read as follows:

On page 5, before line 1, please insert the following heading and paragraph:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The preferred embodiments of the present invention will now be described with reference to Figures 1-17 of the drawings. Identical elements in the various figures are designated with the same reference numerals.

On page 5, lines 1-24, to page 6 lines 1-7, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

~~The following considerations led to the invention:~~ In a known, conventional blister package that does not include individual conductors extending through the areas of the sealing film over the pockets, when a conductor carrier strip with coverings for the above-mentioned areas of the sealing film is to be provided, ~~whereby~~ and wherein the individual conductors extend over the coverings, it must be

ensured that, during conventional removal of a tablet from a pocket by opening the area of the sealing film of the blister package, the covering positioned over the area of the conductor carrier strip is separated from the conductor carrier strip simultaneously, and also cleanly and simply. Only then is simple, clean tablet removal ensured. In this connection, ~~the thought~~ it was first ~~arose~~ proposed to separate the covering from the remaining area of the conductor carrier strip by means of a stamped line, so that the covering may be simply separated from the conductor carrier strip by pressure from the pocket side onto the tablet, and from the tablet onto the sealing film and the covering. If one provides such a covering separated from the conductor carrier strip by a stamped line, it must be ensured that: (1) conductor routing from the conductor carrier strip is possible via the covering, and (2) when separating the covering upon removal of a tablet it is ensured that the individual conductor is broken. For this purpose, it is proposed by the invention to connect the covering with the conductor carrier strip by means of at least two spars whereby theses spars interrupt the stamped line. For this, a minimum of two spars are to be positioned along the extent of the ring-shaped stamped line so that,

upon tablet removal, at least one of the spars is broken in any case. Upon separation of precisely this spar, the individual conductor assigned to this pocket must also be broken and electrically interrupted.

On page 6, lines 8-12, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

Figures 1 and 2 show a known blister package 1, whereby Figure 2 shows a top view of the blister package 1 on the side of the deep-drawing film 14 and Figure 1 shows a side view of the blister package 1. The individual bins or pockets to contain the medication or tablets 2 are designated with the reference numeral 3.

On page 6, lines 13-23, to page 7 lines 1-6, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

Per Figure 1a, a conductor carrier strip 10 to be connected to the blister package 1 includes an adhesive layer 11 on the side facing toward the blister package 1 which adheres the conductor carrier strip 10 to the blister package 1 and possesses connection points 51, 54 of an

interface 5 on the side facing away from the blister package

1. Such connection points become electrically connected when the conductor carrier strip 10 is inserted into a receiver device 40 with an electronic unit (not shown) positioned within the receiver device 40. ~~This~~ Such a receiver device 40 is shown in Figure 7. In a known manner, an individual conductor 52 extends from each individual connection point 51 along the surface of the conductor carrier strip 10 over a pocket 3 containing a tablet 2 when the blister package is mounted to a common conductor 53 which, in turn, is connected via a common connection point 54 to the interface 5. A display to show the data pertaining to the tablet removal is designated with the reference numeral 45 (Fig. 7).

On page 13, lines 7-10, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

~~Comment must be made~~ It should be noted that the preferred embodiments of the carrier strips 10' shown in Figures 17b through 17e may be a component of the book-type carrier strip described in connection with Figures 12 through 16.

On page 13, lines 11-16, to page 16, lines 1-2, please delete the paragraphs in their entirety as follows:

~~Reference Index List~~

~~1, 1' Blister package~~

~~2, 2' Tablet~~

~~3, 3' Pocket~~

4 Opening

5 Interface

~~10, Conductor carrier strip~~

~~10'~~

~~11 Adhesive layer~~

~~12 Protective layer~~

~~13, Sealing film~~

~~13'~~

~~13'~~

14 ~~Deep-drawing film~~

30 ~~Covering~~

40 ~~Receiver device~~

41 ~~Stamped line~~

42 ~~Spar~~

43 ~~Spar~~

45 ~~Display~~

51, ~~Individual connection~~

51' ~~contact spot~~

52, ~~Individual conductor~~

~~52'~~

~~53~~ ~~Common conductor~~

~~54~~ ~~Common connection~~
~~contact spot~~

~~60~~ ~~Carrier strip~~

~~61~~ ~~Fold line~~

~~62,~~ ~~Insertion openings~~

~~62'~~

~~63~~ ~~Part~~

~~64'~~ ~~Dielectric layer~~

~~65'~~ ~~Tear film~~

~~66'~~ ~~Adhesive layer~~

~~L~~ ~~Longitudinal centerline~~

~~Ø~~ ~~Cross centerline~~

On page 16, after the last line, please insert the following paragraph:

There has thus been shown and described a novel blister package arrangement which fulfills all the objects and advantages sought therefor. Many changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications of the subject invention will, however, become apparent to those skilled in the art after considering this specification and the accompanying drawings which disclose the preferred embodiments thereof. All such changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications which do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention are deemed to be covered by the invention, which is to be limited only by the claims which follow.